

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 26 as follows:

A third coupling member 21 is connected to the curved portion 12a of the first jaw 12 by means of a third coupling pin 20. The proximal end portion of the third coupling member is horizontally wide, and a fourth coupling pin 22 and a fifth coupling pin 23 are provided on this wide proximal end portion in such a manner that they are horizontally apart. The fourth coupling pin 22 is coupled to the second drive rod 6, and the fifth coupling pin 23 is coupled to the third driving rod 7.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 9 as follows:

The surgical operation instrument 1 of the above structure operates as follows. When the first driving rod 5 is advanced, the proximal end of the second jaw 14 is pushed forward by means of the first and second coupling members 16 and 18. As a result, the second jaw ~~15~~ 14 rotates, with the pivotable support pin 11 as a support point, and the first and second jaws 12 and 14 open. Conversely, when the first driving rod 5 is retraced, the proximal end of the second jaw 14 is pulled backward by means of the first and second coupling members 16 and 18. As a result, the second jaw 14 rotates, with the pivotable support pin 11 as a support point, and the first and second jaws 12 and 14 close.